LETITIA'S DAUGHTER.

BY ZOE ANDERSON NORRIS.

Coppergiu, 1800, US Zie A. Norris.

Tabitha Allen took Eliza's hat, laid Eliza was in a spasm of suspense. It on a table near by, motioned her to a seat and stood in the middle of the imart?" she begged to know. room, looking solemnly down at her. Tabitha had finished darning the "If I tell you somethin," said she, stocking. She laid it across her knee,

"I promise," said Elisa,

"On your word of honor?" Elliza, "I won't breathe it to a livin gust. "That's what she did." toul. See! I cross my heart and "And Tom fell in love with her?" tetion to the word.

ped the darning ball into it and slowly "Tom Jones is every bit and grain as ball in the shape of an overgrown an indignantly. strawberry, while Eliza leaned eager. She snipped off a stray through with y forward, waiting to hear.

Tabitha threaded her needle before "And I was right," she went an. "It she spoke.

Kinsman and Tom Jones?"

selves into a sphinxlike smile, whole house who who had been a sphinxlike which who had been a sphinxlike smile.

know," said she, "but there'll be a lit- "When she first come, Letitla was so this time, as it happens."

asked Eliza breathlessly.

Tabitha waived the question.



anything concernin her own affairs, all up with Letitla!" but you can't help pickin up a mite of "One night last week," she continuinformation as you go along, livin so ed, "I saw Tom and the girl out in the close-that is, if you've got any eyes moonlight together as usual hangin on

time for such a pretty woman, and it tia's, only younger and gayer. So I was a long time, too, before she began thought now Letitia is in the house in to notice, as much as a year or more, the dark all by berself, and I'll go in So when Tom Jones took to seein her and keep her company. I had borrowhome from meetin and hangin over the ed a spoonful of tea from her the day gate with her till the moon went down before. It would be a good excuse to nobody was much surprised. Even if pretend I'd come to pay it back. I Leilia ain't as young as she used to be went around to the kitchen door. It she's a mighty pretty woman-mighty was the nearest way; besides, them pretty! And smart! There ain't a two was out in front, and I knew they smarter woman in Plainville then Leti- wouldn't want to be disturbed. The tia Kinsman."

ain't pretty, they're kinder takin some think nothin of walkin right on in. 1 how or other," put in Eliza. "They went through the dinin room to the setallus catches the eye of the men."

long needle through every other stitch was a couch by the window, with the In the diminutive latticework she was moonlight streamin over it, and Letitia weaving in the spot where the heel of was layin on it face down. like some

"That's true enough," said she, "and, as I kay, it begun to look like Lettila was hovin things all her own way. She was a widow and pretty yet and smart. There never was a church sociable but what Letitia had every man in the room around her a-splittin of their sides laughin at the funny things she said right off plank down, while the rest of us thought of what we mought have said after we'd got half way

She slapped her hand over her mouth in the effort to conceal a slight yawn. "Yes," she concluded, "she was smart—there's no deliyin that—about most things. But there was one thing she wa'n't smart about."

"And what was that?" demanded

"When everything was goin her way and Tom had popped the question or was about to pop it, and that"-here she grasped the stocking more securely and looked cross eyed as she ran the iy and looked cross eyed as she ran the "SHE WAS SHAKIN ALL OVER WITH SORS," needle back the other way, the point body'd thrown her there. She was toward her-"was one thing I never slankin all over with sobs. She wa'n't could quite make out, whether he ever cryin so's you could hear her, but jest asked her in so many words to marry sort of catchin her breath, trylin hard him or not. If he didn't, all I've go' not to cry, for all the world him or not. in say is that he was mighty near it, child that had beell'whipped, sendin her little sweet smellin bokays and settin out on the front porch with in the mornin before I'd had time to is-and started up, brushin the tears get my dishes washed; so early that if away with the backs of her hands,

"What did she do that wa'n't

creasing her forehead into an impress-smiled complecently at the deftness of tye frown, 'will you promise not to her own handwork and slipped the tell?' darning ball into its mate.

She brought that big girl of hers home out of the boardin school," she "On my word of honor," repented announced with an intonation of dis-

lody." And she laughlingly suited the "Of course! What else could she have expected, I'd like to know? Leti-Tabitha took her seat at the window, tia's pretty, but her daughter is pretand, searching in a combersome basket tier. Besides, she is 17 years younger, for a heelless stocking, found one, slip- and that makes a good deal of differ-

thrust, her needle through an emery old as Letitla Kinsman," declared Ell-

her selssors.

"There's to be a weddin in the neigh- and Letitia's daughter a-settia out on berhood pretty soon," she said then, the porch together and hangin on the "A weddin!" cried Eliza. "What! gate together, and it was the girl that You don't mean next door-Letitia got the little bokays and put 'em in the vase on the mantelplece in the par-Tabilina's thin lips wreathed them- lor where they could scent up the whole house while Letitla stood by

tle surprise waitin 'em. It ain't Leftila bright and cheery you'd taken 'em for sisters if you'd seen 'em settin side by "Then who in the world can it be?" side, but it wa'n't many weeks before Tabitha waived the question.

Letitia begun to get hollow eyed and white and showed her age, every day of it, jest when she'd oughter been insurance or since her legisland died." Kinsman ever since her busband died," a-bloomin her very prettiest if she wanted to be any sort of match for the girl at all. It was pitiful to see the change in her. She got so she didn't make any more of her cute little jokes, and she never laughed any more. I missed that laugh of hers. I used to like to hear it, settin here by the window sewin. The girl laughed a-plenty. but Letitia she got quieter and quieter until at last you'd thought it was a ghost of a woman creepin about the house at her work, laggin sort of tiredlike and word out as if she'd somehow come to the end of her row."

She sighed as she unwound the darning cotton from a black ball, bit off the end and once more threaded the large eye of her needle.

"Don't I know that?" But he's a man, remember, and men don't get old, they say. Anyway, the older they get the better they likes to hang around a girl' "THERE'S TO BE A WEDDIN IN THE NEIGH- that's jest about frylu size. And that's them together, rolled them in a neat the reason I says the minit I see that said she, "and I know all about her young thing jump out of the bus and from A to izzard; not that she's told run up the walk to the house, her me much berself-Letitia never was no cheeks a-bloomin like roses and her great hand to talk; she's a close mouth- eyes a-shinin, 'It's all up with Letl- and not Letitia! My land?" ed woman, especially when it comes to tia! Them was my very words, 'It's "It's the daughter," said I

the gate. I could hear it creakin, She worked awhile in silence before swingin backwards and forwards. The door was open. Letitla and me has Seems like, even if them widows been neighbors so long that I didn't tin room and stood still in the middle Tabitha nodded assent as she ran her of it lookin around for Letitia. There



"What did you do?" panted Ediza. "I stood there," replied Tablitha. "She her till gill hours of the night and, as I hadn't heard me come in, so she kept said before, hangin on the gate; not on sobbin till by and by she kinder felt only that, but comin sometimes early that I was there-you know how that you hadn't known better you'd thought 'How you frightened me!' she says, held been hangin there on that gate tryin to laugh, with her voice all trem-

blif. Then she went, on to explain about how she had one of her bad nervous hendaches that she's subject to and was layin down to see if she

couldn't sleep it off. "I never said a thing, not a single thing. I jest walted, listenin same as if I was takin it all in. Then, when she was through, T've brought back the tea I borrowed from you yesterday,' I meal to the exclusion of all other told her, and I handed her the cup meats. It was finally decided to send with the spoonful of tea at the bottom | the colonel to the landlord to protest, of It.

"'You needn't 'a' minded about bringin back that little bit of tea,' she said-Letitia's a mighty good, liberal bearted neighbor to have; I've allus said that of her-and she went on out hate the kitchen and found the ten canlater, poured the ten into it, wiped the cup and handed it back to me, all without any light. 'The moonlight is bright as day,' says she, apologizin, but knew the reason she wouldn't light the lamp. She didn't want me to see the tears on her cheeks.

"After that she asked me to come in and set down, but of course I wouldn't.



"WHAT'S YOUR HURBY?" SHE ASKED. marched myself straight back home." "And how did you find out about the

weddin?" inquired Eliza. "It was the next mornin. I was tyln up some mornin glory vines on the side fence between her yard and mine when she came out of the house and stood across from me with the vines in botween us.

"'If you've got a spool of white thread No. 70," says she, 'I'd like to borrow it,' and with that she goes on to tell me about the weddin, smilin beave as you please, with her face like a ghost. 'My daughter is to be married soon,' says she, 'to Mr. Jones, and I am real busy now workin on her weddin clothes.

"T'll get you the thread in one minute, I said to her, and I started for the house. On the step of the back porch I happened to look over my shoulder at her standin there with the mornin glories up to her waist and bloomin fit to kill, sort of makin part of a frame for her. The smile was all gone-she thought I wa'n't lookin, you see-and your heart would have ached, Eliza, if you could have seen her face!"

By this time she had finished darning the mate to the first stocking. She laid rolf and turned the hem, of one over both.

"And so," gasped Eliza, "It's the daughter he's goin to marry, after all,

"It's the daughter," sald Tabitha conclusively, drawing the big basket eloser and laying the stockings in it with others like them, carefully darned and folded away in pairs.

Efiza arose and reached for her hat. In her haste she planted it on a triffe rooked, which had the effect of givdaunted, she made for the door, at the

Tabitha followed her. 'What's your hurry?" she asked. "Oh, there are a lot of things I've got to do this mornin," explained Eliza. I'm up to my neck in work as usual, but I'm awfully glad I found you at home, Tabitha, awfully glad! Come over soon, real soon, and bring your knittin. Why can't you stay all day? Well. If you can't do that make me a

little visit anyway. Goodby." "Goodby," said Tabitha. As she watched her hurry out of the gate and make her way swiftig deross the street she added: "She declared up and down she wouldn't rell, but I know that Eliza Banks like a book. If she kept a secret half a day, 'she'd die of it. She's gone right now to bunt up some body to tell it to."

She shut the door and walked back into the room. "That story will be all over Plain-ville with a thousand frills and furbelows by night," she muttered.

A Terrible Warning. There was a man who was too stingy to subscribe for his home paper, so sent his little son to a neighbor to borrow one. As the boy was going home he fell down and broke his leg. The father heard his cries and ran out to see what was the matter, but slipped and fell, dislocating his knee and tearing the bosom out of his \$10 pantaloons. His wife ran to his assistance, leaving a 2-year-old baby on the floor. The baby crawled out and fell down

the well, and while the mother was

fishing the child out the house caught fire and was totally destroyed. Moral-Now is the time to subscribe,-Cambridge (O.) Sun. A Transieut Population. Every Friday evening New York oses thousands of its residents, who go

to other cities in the state and to Bostou and Philadelphia. These people are citizens of Albany, Utica, Syra-cuse, Rochester, Buffald, Elmira, Bing-hamton, and the travelers to Boston and Philadelphia have their homes in those cities. All of these men do business in New York city. They return to New York from their homes on Sunday night, arriving on Monday morning. and from that time until Friday evenhig they are going after the almighty dollar. -Baltimore News.

SHOCKED THE LANDLORD. And They Did It, Too, With Maline Aforethought,

Bailey's Honolulu Cyclery Co., "We had been at a Rocky mountain hotel for a week," said a Washington man who has just returned from the west, "and beefsteak, and mutton chops had been on the bill of fare at every and, having gained the ear of mine

host, he said:
"I want to speak to you in a good natured way about your meats." "My meats!" echoed the landlord. 'Why, is there anything wrong about

my meats? I'm getting the very best." 'It's beefsteak and mutton, you know?

"'Yes, I know, and they cost me a heap of money to get 'em here-yes. sir; almost worth their weight in silver-but I must have the best. What is it you complain of?

"'We don't complain. What I wanted to ask you was about game. There. must be game around here?

"'Of course. Do you mean to say that your crowd wants ventson, bear, meat, antelope, prairie chicken, turkey.

"'Exactly. Yes; that's what we want.

"In place of beef and mutten?"

" 'Yes.' "'Well, I'll be hanged! Here, Jim, tell the boys to go out after a cartload of game and to keep it up for three or four days. Here's a crowd kicking about steaks at 35 cents per pound and chops at 30 and ready to fill up on gaine at \$2 a ton! Well, you eastern folks beat the band in your queer instes about eating! Next thing you'll be telling me you prefer wild goose to a Chicago sugar cured ham." "-Washington Post.

The Jungle Barber,



HAS AN ALL DAY JOB. -New York Journal.

Conceit All Gone. "That boy," she said when her husband reached home, "is just like you." "Been naughty again, has he?" he re-

turned. ¿ Long experience had taught him the circumstances in which she noted the resemblance between father and son, and years ago the remark bad censed to flatter blue-Chicago Post. At ex.

By Sample. "What do you call this?" demanded the guest, inspecting a morsel that lay

in the center of his plate. "Letitia wore her crape a good long awhile, too, a pretty laugh like Leti- ing her a rakish air; but, nothing the waiter. "What did you think it was?

"I didn't know but it might be a piece of Hamburg edging."-Chiengo Trib-

Making Her Mark. "That oldest Billinger girl is pretty sure to make her mark in the world." "You bet she is. Look at her now plowing her way through that crowd in the refreshment room. She makes a mark every time she thrusts out those frightfully sharp elbows."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Stage Manager-By Jore, there's

nice thing happening on the stage! Profrietor—Eh? What's up? "The hero and villain are doing their duel act! and the latter won't die until you signal him that he'll get his arrears of salary at the end of the piece." -Tit-Bits.

Great Chance For Him. "I see by the mewsphpers." said the casual caller, "that there is a man in Canada with three lungs."

"Oh, my! Oh, my!" exclaimed the baseball fan enthusiastically. "What a 'rooter' he would make, wouldn't he?"-Chicago Post.

A Counter Blow. "I believe you only married me for my money," be remarked bitterly. "Well, you took good care to make the money one of the leading Items in

your proposal," she responded .- Phila-

delphia North American. Analysis of Emotions. "Did you feel very keenly your bro-ken engagement, Comentine?" "Yes, but I don't think my heart was

-Detroit Free Press. His Guess. Teacher-Well, Johnny, if you can't spell "pilot" perhaps you can tell me what it is? Johnny-Why, I guess it's a lot

involved. My grief resulted from the wrench caused by changing my mind."

where they grow pleplant.-Philadelphia Press. Free Lectures Every Night.
"I see that Max O'Rell has delivered DEALERS IN All kind of sporting Goods

2,104 lectures in 16 years." "Pooh, that's nothing! I've been married 20 years."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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